Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A ring-shaped metal gasket comprising:

an annular main body having a square cross section;

a pair of annular arm portions projecting circumferentially outwardly of the annular main body in a bugle state at a predetermined angle; and

an annular projecting portion bulging circumferentially inwardly of the annular main body with a height larger than the axial height of the annular main body,

wherein the pair of annular arm portions are disposed in a flange and seal the flange by elastically deforming when each said arm portion contacts a flange face with an elastic rebound force as a result of clamping of the flange.

2. (Currently amended) A ring-shaped metal gasket comprising:

an annular main body having a square cross section;

a pair of annular arm portions projecting circumferentially inwardly of the annular main body in a bugle state at a predetermined angle; and

an annular projecting portion bulging circumferentially outwardly of the annular main body with a height larger than the axial height of the annular main body,

wherein the pair of annular arm portions are disposed in a flange and seal the flange by elastically deforming when each said arm portion contacts a flange face with an elastic rebound force as a result of clamping of the flange.

3. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 1, wherein in use said metal gasket is free from additional sealing elements and said gasket comprises a monolithic element.

4. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 2, wherein in use said metal gasket is free from additional sealing elements and said gasket comprises a monolithic element.

5. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 1, wherein said pair of annular arm portions project circumferentially outwardly of the said main body at the predetermined angle which is within a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees relative to a plane defined by the circumference of said main body.

6. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 2, wherein said pair of annular arm portions project circumferentially inwardly of the said main body at the predetermined angle which is within a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees relative to a plane defined by the circumference of said main body.

7. (New) A ring-shaped metal gasket comprising:

an annular main body having a substantially rectangular cross section and an inner side facing inwardly and an outer side facing outwardly;

a pair of annular arm portions projecting generally inwardly from the inner side of the annular main body and about the circumference of said main body in a bugle state at a predetermined angle relative to a radial direction from the main body, each of the annular arm portions projecting

inwardly having a substantially rectangular cross section so that the annular arm portions have substantially the same width along the length thereof; and

an annular projection portion integral with the annular main body and projecting circumferentially from the outer side of the main body, the annular projection portion having a cross section larger in an axial direction than the cross section of the annular main body.

8. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 7 wherein said annular projection portion, said main body and said annular arm portions are monolithic and provide a radially symmetrical cross section for said gasket.

9. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 8, wherein the cross section of said annular projection portion has a generally flat side opposite from said main body, and the cross section of said annular projection portion has generally flat sides radially adjacent to and symmetrical with said main body and said flat sides facing inwardly about the circumference of said gasket.

10. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 9, wherein the predetermined angle is within a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees relative to the radial direction.

11. (New) The ring-shaped metal gasket of Claim 7, wherein the predetermined angle is within a range of 10 degrees to 15 degrees relative to the radial direction.